REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action issued January 26, 2006, claims 1, 2, 4-5, and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Published Application No. 2004/0226031 to Zimmerman et al. (Zimmerman) in view of admitted prior art (APA). Claims 3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of admitted prior art APA and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,088,694 to Burns et al. (Burns)

Claims 1-9 are now pending in this application. No claim amendments have been made.

The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 1, 2, 4-5, and 7-9 is not unpatentable over Zimmerman and any APA. In particular, the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, requires a computer implemented method of installing a first self-contained data handling application to operate with a second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application having at least one call routine which is executed when the second data handling application is operated, the method comprising: a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present, b) generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application, which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application.

Zimmermann discloses the use of a dynamic library with an installed program. A library is a collection of subprograms used to develop software. Libraries contain "helper" code and data, which provide services to independent programs. This allows

code and data to be shared and changed in a modular fashion. Thus, as the Examiner recognizes, the libraries disclosed by Zimmerman are not "self-contained data handling applications" required by the present invention. The recognition in the APA of the existence of self-contained programs would not properly motivate one of skill in the art to make a library that includes the "self-contained data handling applications" required by the present invention. The entire purpose of a library is to provide helper subprograms that are included in independent programs. Thus, the teaching of a library actually teaches away from independent or self-contained programs.

First, the present invention requires that the claimed process is initiated upon installation of an application that is not already installed. By contrast, Zimmerman discloses that the process of Zimmerman is initiated when the application that is already installed wants to execute the application that is not already loaded (the dynamic library). Thus, Zimmerman discloses the opposite of what is required by the present invention.

Second, the present invention requires determining the presence of the previously installed application (the second application). By contrast, Zimmerman discloses determining the presence of the application that is to be loaded (the dynamic library). Thus, Zimmerman discloses the opposite of what is required by the present invention.

Third, the present invention requires that, if the previously installed application is present, a link to a software routine provided by the application that is being installed is generated. Zimmerman merely discloses loading and attaching to the dynamic library. As is well known, programs and libraries make references known as links to each other through the process known as linking, which is done by a linker immediately after the

programs and the libraries are compiled. Thus, any links disclosed or suggested by a dynamic library are not generated at the time the library is loaded and attached to. Thus, Zimmerman does not disclose generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application.

Thus, the present invention, according to claim 1, and according to claims 5 and 8, which are similar to claim 1, and according to claims 2, 4, 7, and 9, which depend therefrom, is not unpatentable over Zimmerman.

The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 3 and 6 is not unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of APA and further in view of Burns because even if Zimmerman, APA, and Burns were combined as suggested by the Examiner, the result would not be the present invention as claimed. As described above, Zimmerman does not disclose or suggest a computer implemented method of installing a first self-contained data handling application to operate with a second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application having at least one call routine which is executed when the second data handling application is operated, the method comprising: a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present, b) generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application, which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application. Likewise, APA and Burns do not disclose or suggest this subject matter. Therefore, the combination of Zimmerman, APA, and Burns still does not disclose or suggest these required features of the present invention.

Thus, the present invention, according to claims 3 and 6 is not unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of APA.

Each of the claims now pending in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.
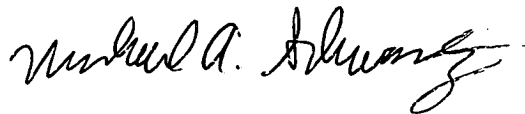
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (19111.0072).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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